Docket No.: 21547-00287-US

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Confirmation No.: 9654

Tomas Back et al.

Application No.: 10/020,401

Filed: December 18, 2001 Art Unit: 3732

For: METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT FOR Examiner: M. N. Bumgarner

PRODUCING ELONGATE SUPPORT ELEMENT AND PRODUCT, AND USE OF

THE SUPPORT ELEMENT

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS AMENDMENT August 8, 2006

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the non-final Official Action mailed February 9, 2006 (Paper No./Mail Date 0106), the period for response having been extended by three (3) months until August 9, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

Deposit account authorization for extension of time fees have been separately provided.